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This report refers in particular to Dien Chau District in Nghe An Province, Central Vietnam.

1. In general the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) education system has spread the knowledge of reading and writing Vietnamese to all classes of society, substantially increased instruction and the number of schools, and guided the thoughts of the people toward Marxist indoctrination.

Number of Schools

2. In 1945 there was one primary school (ecole primaire) and seven sub-primary schools (ecoles primaires elementaires) in DRV-controlled areas of Nghe An Province. From 1945 to ~~June~~ 1952 the number of schools increased to include the following:

a. Superior Primary Schools (Ecoles Primaires superieures)

1. Nguyen Xuan On School - DRV State school
2. Pham Boi Hue School - Private school established by Communist groups.
3. Nguyen Hue School - private school established by groups supporting the Democratic Party.
4. Thien Khai Duong School - private school established by the Catholics.
5. Yen Ly School - private school established by a group of teachers.

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- b. Primary Schools (Ecoles Primaires) - one per village. Some of the large villages have two or three primary schools.
- c. Night Schools for adults, one per hamlet - about one for every 50 dwellings.
- d. Secondary Schools (Ecole Secondaire) - The only secondary school in Nghe An Province, the Chuyen Khua School, is located at Do Luong.

Program of Studies

- 3. In practice all children between the ages of five and 13 attend school. In the primary schools and the superior primary schools there are three hours of conventional education per day. The rest of the day is spent in political indoctrination ("brain washing") and in practical community work such as working in the fields, in community industries, and participating in propaganda work. During the campaign for the collection of the agricultural tax, for example, groups of five small children were sent to the homes of the farmers who had not yet paid their taxes with orders to remain there until the taxes were paid. Usually accompanying the school children are representatives of the "Mothers of the Fighters" organization and representatives of other local women's organizations.
- 4. The basic language in the schools is Vietnamese. In the superior primary schools there is two hours a week of foreign language training. Until 1949 one hour per week of English was taught in addition to one hour of French. Beginning with the next school year French will not be taught and will be replaced with four hours a week of Chinese.
- 5. An extremely important place in the curriculum is given to political indoctrination and the program of "brain washing". This training is directed not by the usual classroom teachers but by the director of the school personally who, in most cases, is a member of the Communist Party. The studies of the "brain washing" are composed of theoretical studies, self-criticism, and summary analysis. During these sessions the students learn to criticize each other, criticize the statements and activities of the teachers and often denounce their own families.
- 6. Communist work takes up much of the students' time. During the harvest time or collection of taxes, the students spend one or two months doing harvesting work and do not attend any classes.
- 7. A student is classified as a good or bad student according to whether or not he is apt in the "brain washing" discussions and whether he has contributed little or much to the community work. In the superior primary schools and the secondary schools the criticism sessions often result in fiery discussions, some of the teachers are accused of reactionary tendencies and thus are violently attacked by their students.

"Popular University" - Night School for Adults

- 8. Courses for adults were instituted at the beginning of the DRV regime and have been continued up to the present time. At present they have almost reached their goal. Even the smallest hamlet has its evening courses. The local Women's organizations (Phu Nu Cuu Quoc) make arrangements for baby sitters, house watchers and other services to make certain that everyone is able to attend night school classes. At present 99 percent of the population knows how to read and write. The evening courses consist primarily, at present, of arithmetic, simple hygiene, and political indoctrination. A control system is set up on the roads to the markets or on the principal paths to the fields and every passerby is stopped and not allowed to proceed unless he can answer a simple question in arithmetic or spell out a simple sentence.

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